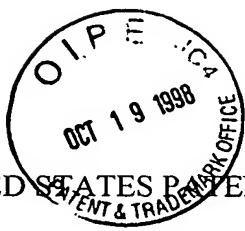


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re application of:

GRUBER *et al.*
Appl. No. 09/076,115
Filed: May 12, 1998
For: **Methods for Production
and Purification of Nucleic
Acid Molecules**

Art Unit: 1643
Examiner: To be assigned
Atty. Docket: 0942.4350001/RWE/BJD

Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. A copy of each of these documents is provided.

The Examiner's attention is also directed to the following co-pending commonly owned U.S. Patent Applications, which are directed to related technical subject matter:

<u>Docket No.</u>	<u>Application No.</u>	<u>Filed</u>
0942.4370001	09/054,485	April 3, 1998
0942.4330002	09/064,057	April 22, 1998

The identification of these U.S. Patent Applications is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited applications and the art cited therein during examination.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this pleading is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Brian J. Del Buono
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

Date: October 19, 1998

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October 19, 1998

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OCT 21 1998
MATRICA COURIER
SERVICE CENTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/076,115; Filed: May 12, 1998
For: Methods for Production and Purification of Nucleic Acid Molecules
Inventors: GRUBER et al.
Our Ref: 0942.4350001/RWE/BJD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement (*in duplicate*);
2. Form PTO-1449 (4 pages) citing 23 documents;
3. One copy of each cited document (AA1-AH1, AL1-AN1, and AR1-AT4); and
4. One return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
October 19, 1998
Page 2

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MATRIX CUSTOMER
SERVICE CENTER

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Brian J. Del Buono
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 42,473

Enclosures

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SKGF Rev. 9/23/98 dcw